

***NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2006***

The meeting was called to order at 6:39pm. Selectmen present were: Janet Smith, Wes Moore and James McIlroy. Others present were Reuben Hull, Brian Knipstein, Chief Reed, Pete Wallace, and Brian Connor.

Reuben Hull presented a new design for the handicapped ramp to the Selectmen. He said he is waiting for approval of the design from the New Hampshire ADA Agency.

Brian Knipstein, the Road Agent, gave an update to the Selectmen on road work around Newfields. Maple Street is scheduled for work next week (including a berm on the side of the street) as long as the weather cooperates. The wash-outs on Old Lee Road and Pleasant Street will also be worked on weather permitting.

On Sanborn Drive, the swale, culvert, and rock wall is scheduled to be fixed by the end of 2006 as long as the weather permits. This was not completed earlier because other areas took priority as a result of storm damage. If the work cannot be completed by the end of 2006, it will take priority in 2007.

On High Rock Lane, Brian stated that the Connors' home was built in a low area so the foundation drain is not working. The Connors need to install a new foundation drain to the rear of the property. Water runoff from the road is only a small part of the problem. Brian stated that High Rock Lane was constructed before any homes were built. He also said that there was an extreme amount of water this year.

Chief Reed left a letter with the Selectmen stating that the Town of Newfields currently has four full-time police officers. He asked them to sign the letter and return it to him.

The Chief attended the wake last Friday for Officer Briggs of Manchester and on Saturday Officer McAulay attended the funeral service.

The Warrant of the Rockingham County Treasurer was reviewed. Newfields is being taxed \$210,229. for 2006, which is \$3,000. more than last year.

The letter regarding the potential junk yard was reviewed. The letter was re-written with input from all of the Selectmen. It will be ready for the Selectmen to sign at the next meeting.

The invoice from Exeter Rent-All for chairs used at the Bridge Dedication Ceremony was approved for payment by the Selectmen. They asked Nancy to contact Exeter Rent-All to

put restrictions on the account so that only authorized individuals are able to charge on the account.

Public Service of New Hampshire has been invoicing the US Post Office for the electricity at the old post office building which the Town purchased in December of 2005. An invoice for the last two months charges was presented to the Town. Newfields will pay the invoice, and the Selectmen asked Nancy to contact PSNH to have the account changed to the Town of Newfields. The Board of Selectmen agreed to have the electrical service to continue as it is less expensive than disconnecting and then reconnecting power.

Pete Wallace noticed in earlier meeting minutes that a cape cod style berm is going to be installed on Pleasant Street and spoke to the Road Agent about doing the same on Maple Street. The Selectmen were pleased to tell Mr. Wallace that berm will be installed next week, weather permitting. Mr. Wallace asked if the backside of the berm on the owner's side of the property will be backfilled. The Selectmen did not have an answer to that question.

While reviewing the minutes from last week's meeting, James noted that the granite steps removed from the front of the Town Hall have not been returned as of tonight.

James made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2006 meeting as amended. Janet seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Election Day was discussed. Wes will be out of town that day so Janet will be at the polls from 8:00am to 2:00pm and James will be at the polls from 2:00pm to 8:00pm. The Selectmen's Meeting will be held that night only if there is a quorum.

The Selectmen asked Nancy to call the insurance company to determine the requirements to receive the balance of the insurance claim funds for the roof repairs to the Town Hall.

Brian Connor attended the meeting to receive an update on the water situation on High Rock Lane. James told him that Reuben Hull and Brian Knipstein were asked to come up with proposed solutions and were delayed because of the weather problems this year. He was told that the primary problem is that the house is situated way below where it should be and the builder should have known that. Brian stated that the road is higher than it should be and James informed him that the road was built before any houses were constructed on High Rock Lane. Also a swale was filled in by the Labries and the Connors' driveway is not where it should be. All of these factors contribute to the issue.

Brian said that he put a cap on the pipe to prevent backup and Wes suggested that he put in a drainage pipe at the lowest point of his basement to reduce the amount of water, directing the flow to the rear of the property. He also said that the road being fixed will not solve the water issued with Brian's property. He suggested that Brian get his own contractor to resolve the water issue and not wait for the Town.

James spoke about Reuben Hull's memo to the Board and how the Town knows there is an issue, but it is not at the top of the priority list.

In summary, Brian was advised to install a drain that goes to daylight to take care of the water issue in the basement. If the area in front where the water is ponding is kept clear of debris (leaves, etc.) it may reduce that particular problem area.

As Wes left the meeting early, James and Janet reviewed the various department budgets for 2006 and decided which departments/lines need further review. They asked Nancy to contact the auditors and assessors for estimates of their contracts for 2006.

Checks were signed.

The Cartographics renewal contract for mapping was signed.

The six month status letter to NOAA on the Piscassic Greenway was signed.

The New Hampshire Retirement System Certification form for the new full-time police officer was signed.

Residential versus commercial trash pick-up in Newfields was discussed and Nancy was asked to contact Bestway Disposal to make sure they are not picking up commercial trash along with residential trash. The Town does not pay for commercial trash pick-up as it is the responsibility of the business owner.

The roof replacement proposals were reviewed and the Selectmen chose Gordon Fowler to do the job. We must have a W-9 and Certificate of Insurance from Mr. Fowler before he can proceed with the work.

The information about the Human Resource module for the accounting system was reviewed.

The letter to the Selectmen from the Silversteins was read along with correspondence from their attorney.

Approval of the request for advance funds on the Cole property was approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Correspondence from Town Counsel was reviewed.

A memo from Al Dixon, Town Administrator for Newmarket, was reviewed along with a contract he included for a bike lane on Route 108 from the Irving Gas Station in Newmarket to Route 108/Route 85 in Newfields. The State is funding this project, but Newmarket will complete the actual work. The Selectmen asked that copies of the information be given to the Town Planner and the Planning Board for review. It was

noted that Newmarket received the contract in March of 2006, but Newfields did not receive the contract until October 23, 2006.

At 10:00pm Janet made a motion to adjourn the meeting. James seconded the motion and the motion passed with both in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer